Confiscated smuggled goods

1137. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Moreh town bordering Myanmar is the entry point for a host of smuggled goods coming into the country from the border town of Tammu;

(b) whether it is a fact that Drugs originating from infamous Golden Triangle spices Burma Team and all kinds of electronic goods find their way with India through Moreh;

(c) if so, the details of the smuggled goods confiscated by Government during the last two years; and

(d) what steps have been taken to plug the entry of smuggled goods during the last two years and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) (b) and (d) Available reports indicate Moreh Town on Indo Myanmar border is sensitive to smuggling. Customs checkposts on Indo-Myanmar Border including at Moreh have been strengthened further to prevent and detect smuggling Anti-smuggling operations have been intensified by appropriate intelligence collection and intensive investigations.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Survey conducted by market research

1138. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a write-up by Shri T. N. Pande in the "Financial Express" of 20th July, 1994 regarding the Banking Sector;

(b) if so, the major observations of the survey conducted by the Market Research Bureau and the steps taken by Government to rectify the situation; and

(c) whether Government would refer the matter relating to the observation on speed money for processing and grant of loans for an in-depth enquiry by the Central Vigilance Commission or the Central Bureau of Investigation or any other Independent inaestigating body, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The summary of the findings of the Survey conducted by Market Research Bureau is as under:

(i) Bank officials were perceived as efficient, helpful, trustable, providing fairly error free records and satisfactory quality servicing

(ii) Banks were perceived as involving a lot of paperwork/procedures, having a limited range of facilities, poorly maintained premises slow, not very aware of schemes/facilities offered.

(iii) Confidence in dealing with banks was high.

(iv) Perception of banks was less positive among opinion leaders and the frequent users.

(v) Overall, the perceived level of corruption in bank was low per se in comparison to other service industries.

(vi) Only 5 to 7 per cent of the borrowers claimed facing a bribing problem at the loan acquisition/disbursement stage. However, borrowers felt that the payment of bribe speedened and ensured loan acquisition This perception could be due to bribing occuring at a